

Application No.: 10/635,028
Art Unit: 3765

Attorney Docket No. 23093.00
Confirmation No. 7370

REMARKS

By the present amendment, Applicant has amended Claims 1 and 8, and cancelled Claim 4. Claims 1-3 and 5-15 remain pending in the present application. Claims 1, 8 and 15 are independent claims.

In the recent Office Action the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 3, 5-7, and 11-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Currier in view of Green. Claim 2 was were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Currier in view of Green, and further in view of Alleyne. The Examiner allowed Claim 15 and indicated that Claims 4 and 8-10 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and of any intervening claims.

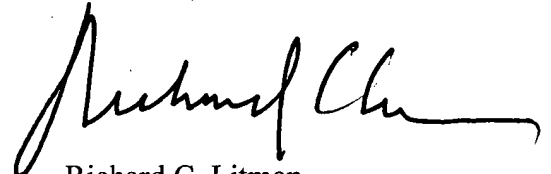
The Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter is noted with appreciation. In this regard, Applicant has amended independent Claim 1 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of Claim 4. Claim 8 has been rewritten in independent form. Incorporated Claim 4 has been cancelled. Applicant respectfully submits that for at least these reasons, independent Claims 1, and 8, as amended, and the corresponding dependent Claims 2, 3, 5-7 and 9-14 are allowable over the prior art of record.

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For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. If such is not the case, the Examiner is requested to kindly contact the undersigned in an effort to satisfactorily conclude the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard C. Litman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Richard C. Litman
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RCL: dht/gps